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Book Review

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# Letters

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## Documents on Lowenstein

To the Editor:

Richard Cummings's response (May 26) to Ronald Radosh's review of his book "The Pied Piper" has it that the book's allegations regarding Allard Lowenstein are further supported by documents Mr. Cummings saw after he wrote his book. Having provided Mr. Cummings with those documents in the hope that he would see fit to correct his book, I find it outrageous that he has chosen to distort the truth even more.

The plain facts revealed in F.B.I. and C.I.A. documents are these: In February 1962 an F.B.I. informant at Stanford University reported that Lowenstein had allegedly commented to students about a past role with the C.I.A. The F.B.I. checked with the C.I.A. and was informed unequivocally, "Subject was never connected with CIA." Subsequent F.B.I. and C.I.A. documents confirm this statement. Indeed, in September 1962, the very time when Mr. Cummings claims Lowenstein was an agent for the C.I.A. in Spain, the C.I.A.'s operative there reported that Lowenstein "represents no one but himself in spite of propensity for name-dropping." Moreover, Mr. Cummings's claim that Lowenstein smuggled out a South-West African student on behalf of the C.I.A. is not only flatly contradicted by internal C.I.A. and F.B.I. documents, it has been categorically denied by the student and Lowenstein's two traveling companions.

In short, Mr. Cummings's letter merely confirms your reviewer's conclusion that "The Pied Piper" "offers a conspiracy theory marked by guilt by association and a failure to examine evidence that contradicts his own views (such as C.I.A. and F.B.I. documents that firmly established Lowenstein was not an agent)."

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